# UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE EASTERN DISTRICT OF PENNSYLVANIA

JAMES M. DESIDERIO, JR., Plaintiff,	: : : : : : : : : : :	
v.	NO. 02-CV-4677	
WINNEBAGO INDUSTRIES; FREIGHTLINER CUSTOM CHASSIS; FREIGHTLINER CUSTOM CHASSIS/ALLIANCE, WARRANTY DEPT.; CATERPILLAR INC. ENGINE DIVISION; ALLISON TRANSMISSION; MEYERS CAMPERS,	<ul><li>:</li><li>:</li><li>:</li><li>:</li><li>:</li><li>:</li><li>:</li><li>:</li><li>:</li><li>:</li><li>:</li></ul>	
Defendants.  OR	: - DER	
AND NOW, this day of _	, 2002, upon consideration of	
Defendant Allison Transmission's Motion for Summary Judgment, it is hereby		
ORDERED and DECREED that Defendant's Motion is DENIED.		
	BY THE COURT:	
	, J.	

## UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE EASTERN DISTRICT OF PENNSYLVANIA

<del>-----</del>.

JAMES M. DESIDERIO, JR.,

**CIVIL ACTION** 

Plaintiff,

NO. 02-CV-4677

v.

WINNEBAGO INDUSTRIES; FREIGHTLINER CUSTOM CHASSIS; FREIGHTLINER CUSTOM CHASSIS/ALLIANCE, WARRANTY DEPT.; CATERPILLAR INC. ENGINE DIVISION; ALLISON TRANSMISSION; MEYERS CAMPERS,

Defendants.

PLAINTIFF'S RESPONSE TO DEFENDANT ALLISON TRANSMISSION'S MOTION FOR SUMMARY JUDGMENT

Plaintiff, James Desiderio, by and through his attorneys, Kimmel & Silverman, P.C., hereby responds to Defendant Allison Transmission's Motion for Summary Judgment:

- 1. Admitted insofar as the complaint speaks for itself.
- 2. Admitted.
- 3. Admitted.
- 4. Admitted.

- 5. Admitted.
- 6. Admitted.
- 7. Admitted only insofar as Plaintiff cannot produce documents pertaining directly to the transmission in the subject vehicle. By way of further response, the lack of any repair documentation pertaining to said transmission does not absolutely show that the transmission was without defect.
  - 8. Denied as a conclusion of law.
  - 9. Denied as a conclusion of law.

WHEREFORE, Plaintiff respectfully requests this Court to deny Defendant Allison Transmission's Motion for Summary Judgment.

> Respectfully submitted, KIMMEL & SILVERMAN, P.C.

By: \_

LOUIS DOBI, JR. Attorney for Plaintiff 30 East Butler Pike Ambler, PA 19002 (215) 540-8888

## UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE EASTERN DISTRICT OF PENNSYLVANIA

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JAMES M. DESIDERIO, JR.,

**CIVIL ACTION** 

Plaintiff,

NO. 02-CV-4677

v.

WINNEBAGO INDUSTRIES; FREIGHTLINER CUSTOM CHASSIS; FREIGHTLINER CUSTOM CHASSIS/ALLIANCE, WARRANTY DEPT.; CATERPILLAR INC. ENGINE DIVISION; ALLISON TRANSMISSION; MEYERS CAMPERS,

Defendants.

MEMORANDUM OF LAW IN SUPPORT OF PLAINTIFF'S RESPONSE TO DEFENDANT ALLISON TRANSMISSION'S MOTION FOR SUMMARY JUDGMENT

Plaintiff, James Desiderio, by and through his attorneys, Kimmel & Silverman, P.C., hereby responds to Defendant Allison Transmission's Motion for Summary Judgment, and in support of his response, offers the following Memorandum:

#### I. <u>Facts</u>

Plaintiff brings this action against various defendants, to include Allison Transmission, for violations of the Magnusson-Moss Warranty Improvement Act and the Pennsylvania Unfair Trade Practices and Consumer Protection Law based on the sale,

delivery and servicing of his 2001 Winnebago Atasca Horizon Motor Home, which he purchased on September 18, 2001. Due to ongoing and unresolved problems with this vehicle, the plaintiff traded this vehicle in August of 2002, much to his detriment.

#### II. Argument

#### A. Summary judgment Standard

Summary judgment is only appropriate when the pleadings [and the record] show that there is no genuine issue as to material fact and that the moving party is entitled to judgment as a matter of law." Fed.R.Civ.P. 56(c). *Disputes regarding facts that might affect the outcome of the case preclude summary judgment*. Anderson v. Liberty Lobby, Inc., 477 U.S. 242, 248, 106 S.Ct. 2505, 2510 (1986). Only where there are no such disputes, will the Court enter summary judgment. See e.g., Celotex Corp. v. Catrett, 477 U.S. 317, 106 S.Ct. 2548. Of course, the court will make its determination after considering the facts, and reasonable inferences drawn therefrom, in a light most favorable to the non-moving party. Anderson v. Liberty Lobby, Inc., 477 U.S. 242, 248, 106 S.Ct. 2505, 2510 (1986).

## B. <u>Defendant's Motion for Summary Judgment Must Fail because there</u> is Genuine Issue of Material Fact as to Whether Plaintiff the Transmission in Plaintiff's Vehicle was <u>Defective</u>

While it is true that there are no repair records that directly reflect repairs made to the transmission in the subject vehicle, there is both testimony and documentary evidence to support that, among other things, the vehicle in question was affected by drivability concerns, to include drive train noises. Because the plaintiff was forced to dispose of the subject vehicle due to the many problems he experienced with it, it will be difficult to connect this noise to the transmission. However, a fact finder in this matter may, upon

hearing the proposed testimony, find that the transmission was in fact to blame for the noise. In short, the mere fact that there were no warranty repairs made to the transmission does not absolutely establish defendant Allison's allegation that its transmission was without defect.

Therefore, if plaintiff's proposed testimony and all reasonable inferences drawn therefrom are viewed in a light most favorable to plaintiff – the non moving party – defendant Allison may be found liable in this matter. Summary judgment is therefore not appropriate.

## IV. Conclusion

Dated: \_\_\_\_\_

In light of the foregoing, Plaintiff respectfully requests this Court to DENY Defendant's Motion for Summary Judgment.

Respectfully submitted,

By:	
•	LOUIS DOBI, JR.
	Attorney for Plaintiff
	Kimmel & Silverman, P.C.
	30 East Butler Pike
	Ambler, PA 19002
	(215) 540-8888

## **VERIFICATION**

LOUIS DOBI, JR., ESQUIRE states that he is the attorney for the Plaintiff herein; that he is acquainted with the facts set forth in the foregoing Response to Defendant's Motion for Summary Judgment; that same are true and correct to the best of his knowledge, information and belief; and that this statement is made subject to the Penalties of 18 Pa. C.S.A. §4904, relating to unsworn falsifications to authorities.

> LOUIS DOBI, JR., ESQUIRE **Attorney for Plaintiff**

#### **CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

I, Louis Dobi, Jr., hereby certify that on this day, May 22, 2003, a true and correct copy of the within Plaintiff's Response to Defendant Allison Transmission's Motion for Summary Judgment has been sent via first-class mail, to the following:

W. Bourne Ruthrauff, Esquire Beth Carter, Esquire Bennett, Bricklin & Saltzburg, LLP 1601 Market Street, 16<sup>th</sup> Floor Philadelphia, PA 19103

> Charles C. Sweedler, Equire Montgomery McCracken 123 S. Broad Street Philadelphia, PA 19109

> Amanda Trask, Esquire Kantrowicz & Phillipi, LLC Suite 4210 Center Square West 1500 Market Street Philadelphia, PA 19102

> Michael B. Pullano, Esquire McCarter & English, LLP Mellon Bank Center 1735 Market Street Suite 700 Philadelphia, PA 19103

Wayne Garver, Esquire Lavin, Coleman, O'Neil, Ricci, Finarelli & Gray Penn Mutual Tower, 10<sup>th</sup> Floor 510 Walnut Street Philadelphia, PA 19106

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